

REMARKS

The Examiner has restricted claims 1-13 and has identified the following groups of claims in the detailed action:

I. Group I, claims 1-7 drawn to a method of producing a retinyl ester compound comprising subjecting a composition comprising retinol or a retinyl ester and a fat or oil of animal or vegetable origins to enzyme catalyzed transesterification in solvent free conditions to produce a retinyl ester, classified in Class 435, subclass 67;

II. Group II, claim 8 drawn to a first product of a mixture of retinyl esters of fatty acids prepared according to the method of claim 1, classified in Class 514, subclass 725 (where claim 10 will be examined with this group);

III. Group III, claim 9, drawn to a second product which is a composition of a mixture of retinyl esters of fatty acids and containing a fat or oil, classified in Class 424, subclass 115;

IV. Group IV, claim 11 drawn to a third product which is a topical composition which contains retinyl esters of fatty acids classified in Class 424, subclass 60 (where claim 12 will be examined with this group); and

V. Group V, claim 13, drawn to a method of providing at least one skincare benefit selected from: treating/preventing wrinkling, sagging, aged and/or photodamaged skin; boosting collagen deposition on skin, boosting decorin production


in skin; soothing irritated, red and/or sensitive skin; improving skin texture, smoothness and/or firmness; providing anti-inflammatory benefits; enhancing skin differentiation; reducing sebum product; or the prevention or treatment of acne; comprising applying thereto a mixture of retinyl esters according to claim 8, classified in Class 424, subclass 401.

Applicants elect, with traverse, to prosecute claims 1-7, identified as Group I.

Applicants respectfully submit that all claims of record can be examined without serious burden to the Examiner; and therefore, the election is made with traverse.

In the event the Examiner has any questions, she is kindly invited to contact Applicants' undersigned counsel at her earliest convenience.

Respectfully submitted,



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